

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Hungary REPORT

SUBJECT *SECRET* Signal Equipment Testing Station *(AND MOBILE RADAR FACTORY)* in Törökbalint DATE DISTR. 3 APR 1963 NO. PAGES 2 REFERENCES RD

DATE OF INFO. PLACE & DATE ACQ. 50X1-HUM

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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- 1. As of late October 1962 a secret experimental testing station for military communications technology, was located in clearly observable gently rolling countryside in Törökbalint south of the Kamara Forest near Budapest. The official stamp of the installation bore the place name "Pistaly" which was assumed to be a cover name.¹ The installation was subordinate to the Central Military Technical Institute at Szilagyí Erzsébet Fásor 6, Budapest-Budagyöngye.²
- 2. The installation was built between 1948 and 1950. The testing area was remodeled and modernized in spring 1959, and as of 1960 various types of electrical equipment had been installed. In this connection, several changes had to be made in the interior and various small structures were put up on the garden side of the building; a transformer building was also constructed in the garden; this work was begun in September 1959 and completed in May 1960. Construction engineers and construction workers were not permitted to enter the various rooms at will. They were allowed to move freely only at the actual working places and in the access corridors thereto. Guards were always present.
- 3. As of late October 1962 the station had approximately seven one-story buildings, and the following equipment was in the testing area: one lathe; two boring machines; one American electrical machine (elektrischer Amerikaner); one grinding machine; one Hebelbank; one plate cutter; five vises (or box clamps) (Schraubstöcke); and various welding units.
- 4. As of late October 1962 in addition to conducting experimental work in the field of military communications, the station also assembled the internal installations for mobile radar units. The vehicles came from the Csepel automobile plant. The parts for the internal installations were produced by the Gamma Works or the Csepel Iron and Steel Works. The equipment installed at the experimental station came from the USSR and Czechoslovakia

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5. As of 1960 the assembly group chief (Montagegruppenleiter) at the installation was Jozsef Ignac, an electrical engineer. The control group chief (Kontrollgruppenleiter) was Ferenc Bodor, an electrical engineer. Among the persons assigned to the installation were Hungarian engineers who had completed their studies in the USSR before 1945 and had not returned to Hungary until after 1945.
6. As of late October 1962 the organizational setup consisted of three parts: (a) the Command which was headed by Captain Andras Hanga; the technical chief was First Lt. Istvan Luft; (b) the technical group; and (c) the motor vehicle group. There were about 89 persons at the installation as follows: about 11 officers; 5 noncommissioned officers; 35 enlisted men; eight civilian employees, including two women in black clothing; and 30 guards. All military personnel wore signal troops insignia; the officers, dark blue, the enlisted men, bright red.
7. As of 1960 the salaries of the personnel at the station were paid directly by the Soviets. On the first and fifteenth of every month a Soviet officer arrived from Budapest and personally delivered the pay envelopes to personnel of the Station. Monthly salaries were as follows: director - 7,500 forints; deputy director - 6,000 forints; group chief - 5,000 forints; worker-engineer - 3,500 forints. This clearly indicated that the installation was a Soviet military installation. After completion of a given series of experiments, premiums amounting to between 5,000 and 10,000 forints per person were paid out, especially if the series were concluded ahead of schedule.

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1. Comment: "Pistaly" may be the name of a tract of land. It is not known as the name of a specific place in the vicinity of Budapest.
2. Comment: The Hungarian military-technical institute (Hadi Technikai Intezet) has been located in Budapest-Budagyongye since 1949. In 1956 the institute had three testing stations near Budapest. One of them in, in Bugyi (47-13N, 19-08E) was used by signal troops.

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Translation of Key to Sketch

1. Main entrance, guard post, garage, technical office
2. Experimental workshop room
3. Office building
4. Personnel quarters consisting of four bedrooms, cultural room, guard room
5. "P" place
6. Canteen, kitchen, mess-hall
7. Depot
8. Rear gate
9. Military firing range, which does not belong to the station
10. New road leading directly to the station
11. Radio station with AVH guard, consisting of three 60-meter high transmitter towers and a building, the purpose of which is not known
12. Guard Posts

The entire station was surrounded by a two-meter-high wire fence with concrete poles.

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